

DRAFT Data Assessment Team (DAT) Conference Call Notes
3/21/13 at 11:00 a.m

Participants: Lucinda Shih (CCWD), Geir Aasen and Lauren Damon (DFW), Edmund Yu, Elaine Jeu and Wenli Yin (DWR), Leigh Bartoo (FWS), Elizabeth Leeper (KMTG on behalf of SLDMWA), Owen Lu and RG Fernando (MWD), Eleanor Bartolomeo (SWRCB)

Sacramento River Salmonid Monitoring

| Preliminary Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Report | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Species* | FWS Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST (Estimated Passage) | DFW Tisdale Weir RST (Catch) | DFW Knights Landing RST (Catch) |
| Date | No new biweekly data | 3/13/13 to 3/18/13 | Monitoring discontinued since 12/15/12 |
| Wild CHNF | | 6 | |
| Wild CHNLF | | | |
| Wild CHNW | | 1 | |
| Wild CHNS | | | |
| Hatchery CHN | | | |
| Wild SH | | | |
| Hatchery SH | | | |
| *Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead; adipose fin clipped indicates hatchery stock; non-adipose fin clipped indicates wild origin. Data subject to revision. | | | |

Starting last week, DFW has been sampling at different periods of the day and night at the Tisdale Weir. All of the sampling done for this reporting period was done after 1600 hours and fished for about 8 hours at each trap.

Graphical summaries of the monitoring data collected at the Sacramento River and at other locations can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>. In addition, the biweekly passage reports of juvenile salmonids sampled at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam are available at http://www.fws.gov/redbluff/rbdd_biweekly.aspx.

Delta Fish Monitoring

| Preliminary FWS Trawl and Seine Catch Report from 3/10/13 to 3/16/13 | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Species* | Beach Seines | Mossdale Trawl | Sacramento Trawl | Chippis Island Trawl |
| Wild CHNF | 78 | 2 | 1 | |
| Wild CHNLF | | | | |
| Wild CHNW | | | | 4 |
| Wild CHNS | 4 | | | |
| Hatchery CHN | 1 | | | 1 |
| Wild SH | 1 | | | |
| Hatchery SH | 1 | | | |
| DSM | | | | 4 (67 to 102 mm, no expression) |
| LFS | | | | 23 (68 to 129 mm, 6 with eggs) |
| SPLT | | | | 1 |
| *Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail; adipose fin clipped indicates hatchery stock; non-adipose fin clipped indicates wild origin. Data subject to revision. | | | | |

Information about the Delta fish monitoring data from FWS can also be found at <http://www.fws.gov/stockton/jfmp/>

Salvage Monitoring

On 3/20, the SWP fish facility lost power at approximately 0500 hours when a feeder breaker was tripped. Banks Pumping Plant continued to export water without salvage. The SWP fish facility switched to PG&E power and salvage resumed at 0845 hours.

| Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Salmonids from 3/11/13 to 3/17/13 | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|------|
| Species | Central Valley Project (CVP) | | | | State Water Project (SWP) | | | |
| | Adipose Fin Clipped (Hatchery) | | Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Wild) | | Adipose Fin Clipped (Hatchery) | | Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Wild) | |
| | Salvage | Loss | Salvage | Loss | Salvage | Loss | Salvage | Loss |
| CHNF | | | | | | | 2 | 9 |
| Total to Date | 93 | 62 | 19 | 12 | 322 | 1,460 | 22 | 96 |
| CHNLF | | | | | | | | |
| Total to Date | 165 | 118 | 28 | 18 | 616 | 2,780 | 57 | 260 |
| CHNW | | | 8 | 7 | 8 | 36 | 6 | 27 |
| Total to Date | 55 | 44 | 81 | 62 | 102 | 460 | 106 | 476 |
| CHNS* | | | 4 | 3 | | | | |
| Total to Date | | | 4 | 3 | | | | |
| CHNU | | | | | | | | |
| Total to Date | | | 8 | 5 | | | | |
| SH | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 52 | 4 | 17 |
| Total to Date | 152 | 103 | 54 | 27 | 101 | 437 | 64 | 277 |
| Notes: -Chinook race based on length (Delta model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, CHNU= Unknown race (Chinook greater than the length-at-date criteria), SH = Steelhead. -Salvage and loss estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish. -Documentation on how to calculate salvage and Chinook loss can be found at ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/Salmon%20Loss%20Estimation/ . -Steelhead loss: SWP steelhead loss = salvage x 4.33 and CVP steelhead loss = salvage x 0.68. -Total to date is the total since 10/1/12 (the start of water year 2013). -Data subject to revision. | | | | | | | | |

*This was the first time spring-run Chinook salmon were salvaged at the fish facilities.

| Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Smelt and Other Species from 3/11/13 to 3/17/13 | | | | |
|--|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| Species | CVP | | SWP | |
| | Salvage | Total to Date | Salvage | Total to Date |
| DSM* | 4 | 144 | | 112 |
| LFS** | 32 | 32 | 32 | 4 |
| SPLT | 8 | 21 | 12 | 66 |
| GST | | | | |
| WST | | 6 | | 4 |
| Notes: -DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail, GST=Green sturgeon, WST=White sturgeon. -Salvage estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish. -Total to date is the total since 10/1/12 (the start of water year 2013). -Data subject to revision. | | | | |

* No delta smelt < 20 mm in FL were reported in larval samples through 3/17 at the CVP fish facility and through 0900 hours on 3/14 at the SWP fish facility.

** Longfin smelt < 20 mm in FL were reported in larval samples at the CVP fish facility through 3/17. No longfin smelt < 20 mm in FL were reported in larval samples from the SWP facility through 0900 hours on 3/14.

Salvage information is posted on the salvage FTP site (<http://ftp.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>). If you cannot access the FTP site, you can also go to <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/apps/salvage/Default.aspx> and click on "Salvage FTP Site."

Smelt Monitoring

20-mm Survey #1 was in the field from 3/11 to 3/14. Only about 65% of the samples have been processed so far. Based on the preliminary data, DFW collected 1,321 young of the year longfin smelt and one adult longfin smelt for a preliminary total of 1,322. The adult longfin smelt was 110 mm, while the young of the year longfin smelt ranged from 6 to 25 mm. In addition, DFW has not collected any larval or adult delta smelt so far.

20-mm Survey #2 will be in the field starting on 3/25. For more information about the 20-mm Survey, please visit the DFW website: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=20mm>.

Spring Kodiak Trawl #4 will be in the field starting on 4/2. For more information about the Spring Kodiak Trawl, please visit the DFW website: <http://dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=SKT>.

Smelt Larva Survey #6 was in the field on 3/18 and 3/19. Preliminary data will be e-mailed out to DAT after the conference call and discussed at the next conference call. For more information about the Smelt Larva Survey, please visit the DFW website: <http://dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=SLS>.

Smelt Working Group

The Smelt Working Group met this past Monday (3/18) and recommended that the 14-day average Old and Middle River (OMR) flow be no more negative than -5,000 cfs and the 5-day average OMR flow be no more negative than -6,250 cfs for adult delta smelt. The Smelt Working Group is still waiting for distribution information on juvenile delta smelt before making a recommendation for that life stage. The FWS determination from 3/12 reflects this week's Smelt Working Group recommendation and will continue to be in effect until FWS decides a new determination is needed.

In addition, the Smelt Working group recommended an OMR flow of -5,000 cfs to be protective of longfin smelt.

The Smelt Working Group notes and FWS determinations are posted at http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/cvp-swp/smelt_working_group.cfm.

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Working Group

No NMFS representative from DOSS was present on the DAT conference call. However, Barb Byrne (NMFS) sent an e-mail update to DAT prior to the conference call. Excerpts from the e-mail update are below:

DOSS Advice from 3/19 meeting:

DOSS provided no advice to NMFS and WOMET on Tuesday, 3/19/2013.

General information on implementation of Action IV.2.3:

On March 10, 2013, in response to the 6.21 fish/thousand-acre feet (TAF) loss density observed on March 9, 2013, the Projects began operating to and in compliance with the action response for the first stage loss density trigger (5.33 older juvenile Chinook salmon/TAF) in NMFS' RPA Action IV.2.3 (OMR flow management). The minimum 5-day action response requires a 5-day running average OMR flow of no more negative than 25% more negative than -3,500 cfs (-4,375 cfs average over 5 days), and combined loss density less than 5.33 fish/TAF for the last 3 consecutive days of the action response before the OMR flow limit could be relaxed to no more negative than -5,000 cfs.

On March 15, 2013, NMFS notified the projects that, effective March 15, 2013, the Projects had satisfied the action response for the first stage OMR flow management trigger, and could operate to an OMR flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs pursuant to the NMFS

RPA. The 5-day running average OMR ending on March 14, 2013 was -3,440 cfs. The combined loss densities for older juvenile Chinook salmon during the action response are shown below.

March 10: 5.30 fish/TAF
March 11: 0.00 fish/TAF
March 12: 0.89 fish/TAF
March 13: 2.78 fish/TAF
March 14: 0.56 fish/TAF

After reviewing the e-mail update, there was a question on whether or not a change in operations was needed when the trigger was exceeded on 3/9. Edmund Yu (DWR) clarified that a change in operations was not needed since OMR was already within the range of the action response due to the D-1641 requirements. However, DWR and Reclamation still need to keep track of whether or not the action response has been satisfied to ensure the OMR requirements are met in case NMFS RPA Action IV.2.3 does become controlling.

DOSS notes are posted at <http://www.swr.noaa.gov/ocap/doss.htm>.

Operations

| Preliminary Summary for 3/21/13 | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|--------|
| SWP | | CVP | |
| Clifton Court Inflow (cfs) | 2,500 | Jones Pumping Plant (cfs) | 3,470 |
| SWP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight | 502 | CVP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight | 771 |
| San Luis Reservoir Total (TAF) as of Midnight | 1,273 | American – Nimbus Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 1,250 |
| Feather – Oroville Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 2,500 | Sacramento – Keswick Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 4,200 |
| DELTA OPERATIONS | | | |
| Outflow (cfs) | ~10,500 | 14-day Average OMR Flow as of 3/20/13 (cfs) | -3,463 |
| X2 (km) | 73 | 5-day Average OMR Flow as of 3/20/13(cfs) | -3,562 |
| E/I (%) | 30.3 (14-day average) | | |

There was a question on what was controlling operations. Wenli Yin (DWR) responded by saying that the E/I ratio was controlling at the time of the DAT conference call.

There was also a comment on whether the E/I ratio will now be based on a 3-day average since the Delta is now in balanced conditions. Yin responded by saying that the E/I ratio is still measured on a 14-day average and that reporting on a 3-day average or a 14-day average is not based on whether the Delta conditions are balanced. Instead, reporting the E/I ratio on a 3-day average is based on whether or not SWP/CVP exports are supported by SWP/CVP reservoir storage withdrawals.

A summary of daily operations can also be viewed at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/deltaops.pdf>.

Next Conference Call: The next DAT conference call is scheduled on 4/4 at 11:00 a.m. An e-mail update will be sent out before the conference call if an agency representative cannot call in. There will be no DAT conference call next week since CALFED Ops is meeting on 3/27. CALFED Ops information can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/index.cfm>.